

NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
AIR PROTECTION BRANCH

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF MURRAY

NOTICE OF PSD PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION AND DRAFT PART 70 OPERATING
PERMIT MODIFICATION

To All Interested Parties:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) announces its intent to modify Part 70 Air Quality Operating Permit No. 4911-213-0034-V-08-0 issued to Thomas A. Smith Energy Facility by the issuance of Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Permit Amendment No. 4911-213-0034-V-08-3. The facility is located at 925 Loopers Bridge Road, Dalton, Georgia. The facility operates an electric generating facility.

The primary purpose of this permit amendment is to allow physical modifications by making control system changes to increase the capacity of Block 1 and Block 2, by approximately 28.6 MW in the summer, and 31.0 MW in the winter, referred to as the AGP Project III. The facility is also installing new turbine components, and controls to allow sustained operations at lower operating loads, referred to as the Minimum Load Project. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division is preparing Title V Operating Permits in accordance with Title V of the Clean Air Act. This permit amendment will be enforceable by the Georgia EPD, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other persons as otherwise authorized by law.

The proposed project and permit amendment will result in increase in potential emission as follows:

Particulate Matter/PM10/PM2.5.....	153 tons per year
VOC.....	36 tons per year
NOx.....	128 tons per year
CO.....	47 tons per year
SO2.....	15 tons per year
Greenhouse Gases (CO2e).....	2,897,635 tons per year

The draft permit, PSD Preliminary Determination, and all information used to develop the draft permit are available for review. This includes the application and all other relevant materials available to the permitting authority. This information is available for review at the office of the Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Atlanta Tradeport - Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. Electronic files of the application, draft Title V permit, PSD Preliminary Determination will be available through our internet site <https://epd.georgia.gov/psd112gnaa-nsrpcp-permits-database>. (Please note that the Internet is generally accessible from most public libraries in Georgia.)

If copies are desired, a copying machine for public use is provided by EPD at the Atlanta Air Protection Branch office. There will be a copying charge of \$0.10 per page. Copies will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Files are available for review and copying 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.

You are hereby notified of the opportunity to submit written public comments concerning the draft Part 70 Operating Permit Modification and the Preliminary Determination concerning the modification. The Preliminary Determination is a summary of the technical review of the application and contains a copy of the Company's application along with supporting documents and the draft Permit Amendment. The draft permit serves as both a draft PSD permit and a draft Part 70 permit amendment. Persons wishing to comment on the draft Part 70 Operating Permit Modification and Preliminary Determination are invited to submit their comments, in writing, to EPD at the Atlanta address above, or via email to epdcomments@dnr.ga.gov (email comments must include the facility name and "Air Permit" in subject line) no later than 30 days after the date of publication in the newspaper. All comments postmarked on or prior to that date will be considered by the Division in making its final decision on the permit.

The Division has concluded that Thomas A. Smith Energy Facility's application should be approved and that a permit should be granted. This conclusion is based upon evidence that the proposed project will comply with the Division's Rules and Regulations for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1; that the emissions from the source will not cause or add to a violation of any applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) or Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) increment; and will comply with the Federal PSD regulations, 40 CFR 52.21, including the use of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for regulated pollutants.

Net emission increases of carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), volatile organic compounds (VOC), and Sulfuric Acid (H₂SO₄) from the proposed project do not exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation. Net emission increases of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), particulate matter (PM/PM₁₀/PM_{2.5}), and total greenhouse gases (Total GHG) from the proposed project do exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation. Ambient PM_{2.5} impacts from the projects in the form of the standard are below the Class II SIL for the 24-hr averaging period, but above the SIL for the annual averaging period. Subsequent modeling demonstrated that OPC T.A. Smith's operations will not cause or contribute to any violation of the annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS or Class II PSD Increment Standard. 1-hour NO_x impacts were above the SIL but subsequent modeling demonstrated that OPC T.A. Smith will not cause or contribute to a violation of the 1-hour NO₂ NAAQS. The Division has determined that these emissions will not cause an adverse impact on ambient air quality, and the air quality levels should pose no significant health risk around the plant.

Any requests for a public hearing must be made in writing within the 30-day public comment period. Such requests should specify in detail the portion of the Air Quality Control Rules which the individual believes may not have been adequately reviewed. A public hearing may be held if the Director of the EPD finds that such a hearing would assist the EPD in a proper review of the facility's capability to comply with the requirements of Federal and State Air Quality Control regulations. State laws specify that a permit shall be issued on evidence satisfactory to the Director of compliance with applicable State and Federal regulations and requirements.

Following the 30 day public comment period, as required by PSD and Part 70 regulations, a proposed amendment, incorporating any changes that result from comments received during the public comment period, will be made available to U.S. EPA and affected states. In accordance with Part 70 regulations, EPA Region 4 has a 45-day period in which to review this proposed permit amendment. Information pertaining to U.S. EPA's review period can be found on their website at <http://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/georgia-proposed-title-v-permits>.

After the comment period has expired, the EPD will consider all comments, make any necessary changes, and issue the Part 70 Operating Permit and a Final Determination. Copies of the final Title V Operating Permit, Final Determination, comments received, EPD's responses to comments, and any other relevant information will then be made available for public review during normal business hours at the office of the Air Protection Branch, as well as at the Internet addresses given above.

For additional information, contact Eric Cornwell, Program Manager, Stationary Source Permitting Program, at the Atlanta address, or by phone at 404/363-7000. Please refer to this notice when requesting information.